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DIRECTOR OFFICE TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2600

DECISION ON PETITION

BRINKS HOFER GILSON & LIONE P.O. BOX 10395 CHICAGO IL 60610

In re Application of Carol S. Gruchala, et al. Application No. 09/844,716 Filed: April 25, 2001

For: METHOD AND SYSTEM FOR PROVIDING A WORK-AT-HOME TELECOMMUNICATION SERVICE

This is a decision on the Petition to Withdraw the Holding of Abandonment filed July 20, 2004 pursuant to 37 CFR § 1.181 (a). No fee is required.

This application became abandoned for failure to timely file a response to the final Office action mailed November 10, 2003. A Notice of Abandonment was mailed July 1, 2004.

Petitioner alleges that a request for continued examination (RCE) was timely filed along with a one month extension of time request and an amendment. Petitioner provides as evidence a copy of the return post card receipt date stamped by the Office on March 12, 2004, a copy of the RCE transmittal request and a copy of the amendment.

A review of the application file reveals the original submissions of the request for continued examination has been matched with the application. The RCE transmittal was date stamped as received March 12, 2004. The filing fee in the amount of \$770.00 and the one (1) month extension of time was processed on March 15, 2004. The RCE request satisfies all of the requirements in accordance with 37 CFR §1.114. In view of the above, the holding of abandonment is withdrawn. Any inconvenience caused petitioner is regretted.

Accordingly, the petition is **GRANTED**.

The application is being forwarded to the Technology Center's (i.e., TC2600) Technical Support Staff for processing the request for continued examination. From there, the application will be forwarded to the examiner for appropriate action.

Dwayne D. Bost

Special Program Examiner Technology Center 2600

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